LICHFIELD

Urban District Council.

SEVENTEENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

G. W. HOMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.S.A.

1904.

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Lichfield Urban District Council.

Seventeenth Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

1904.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors
of the City and County of Lichfield.

I beg to submit to your Council my Report for the year 1904.

The area covered by your district is 3,421 acres, containing a population of 7,902 persons. (Census 1901.)

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 217 :

Females	...	...	103
Males	...	...	114

giving an average of 27·1 per 1000 of population, a higher rate than the average of the preceding ten years, which was 25·9 per 1000.—*(See Table I. columns 3 & 4.)*

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 177, giving an average death-rate of 22·5 per 1000 of population, which is again higher than the preceding year.

Of these deaths, 47 occurred in the Public Institutions, and of these 26 belonged to the Rural and other districts. There was also one death, due to an accident in Lichfield, of a resident in Birmingham.

There was one death of a resident belonging to your district in the General Hospital, Birmingham, and one of a Lichfield resident at Bury St. Edmunds, giving a total death number of residents belonging to the district of 152, or an average of 19 per 1000 of population.

There were 45 deaths in the Union Workhouse, one in Milley's Hospital, and one in the Victoria Nursing Home.

There were 3 inquests held during the year (one of suicide in the Canal).

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were 4 deaths from Whooping cough, and 7 from Enteritis.

The deaths from the principal zymotic diseases during the past ten years have been as follows :—

	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Typhoid Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Enteritis.	Erysipelas.
1895 ...	0	4	0	1	1	2	2	0	0
1896 ...	0	1	1	1	3	0	4	0	0
1897 ...	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
1898 ...	0	5	0	0	1	0	3	0	0
1899 ...	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0
1900 ...	0	2	0	1	11	1	3	0	0
1901 ...	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	0
1902 ...	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	1	1
1903 ...	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	0
1904 ...	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	7	0

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Fifty-four cases were notified during the year.—*(See Table III.)*

The notifications for the last ten years have been as follows :—

		Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Chicken Pox.
1895	...	1	52	1	6	0	7	0
1896	...	0	56	3	2	0	12	0
1897	...	0	9	1	5	0	17	0
1898	...	0	4	0	8	0	9	0
1899	...	0	5	1	1	0	12	0
1900	...	0	14	2	3	0	9	0
1901	...	0	7	24	7	0	13	0
1902	...	2	40	9	5	0	11	17
1903	...	4	7	3	0	1	17	29
1904	...	1	8	10	1	1	9	24

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The number of cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital during the year were as follow :—

Small Pox	1
Diphtheria	8
Scarlet Fever...	5

A "Thresh" Disinfecting Apparatus has been erected at the Hospital, and, although the outlay is perhaps large, I believe it will fully repay the cost as time passes. The disinfection of bedding and clothing is now thoroughly effected, and I look upon this as a great gain and aid in stopping the spread of infection.

The Iron Small Pox Hospital has been erected, and so far has, I believe, answered its purpose admirably. Whilst one case from the Rural District was in, we were able to carry out the isolation of other infectious diseases in the ordinary way, instead of having to stop their admission as was the case last year when we had cases of Small Pox in the Hospital Cottages.

Some alterations at the Hospital are still desirable.

The nursing arrangements at the Hospital are efficiently carried out, with Miss Bangham as head nurse, Miss Mann as assistant nurse, and Mrs. Mann as matron.

I have personally inspected the workshops, slaughter-houses, bakehouses, most of the cowsheds, dairies, common lodging-houses, and schools, and all cases of nuisances to which my attention was called in the District, and have taken what steps I considered best to remove the nuisances.

Mr. Pinches has worked zealously as Sanitary Inspector. It is a regret to me that so many of the suggested sanitary improvements are so slowly carried out, and I would urgently impress the importance of this matter on the Council.

The subject of the cowsheds has received the careful consideration of the Sanitary Committee, and I am glad to note that they decided that 800 cubic feet per animal shall be the minimum cubic space permissible.

One shed I had to condemn as absolutely unfit for the purpose, as it was impossible to carry out the sanitary requirements in this case. The other sheds have been carefully cleaned, and in many fresh drainage has been provided. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of having clean and well-ventilated sheds with proper cubic space for milking cows.

The scheme of drainage on Mr. Elliott's plan has been carried out, and should tend to improve the health of the City.

GEO. W. HOMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.S.A.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Redcourt,
Lichfield,
January 30th, 1905.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The weekly collection of domestic refuse, and the cleansing of privies and ashpits is undertaken by the Corporation ; only within the last two years has the latter been carried out by the authority, and the calls that are being made upon them are constantly increasing.

The Extensions to the Sewerage Scheme (including the duplication of the Pumping Machinery at the Trent Valley Pumping Station) have been completed, resulting in a more comprehensive system of sewer ventilation, with greater facilities for sewer inspection, and better arrangements for their cleansing and flushing through the provision of new extra manholes.

Galvanized iron dirt buckets have now been provided for all sewer manholes.

Connections to all public sewers of private drains are made by the Corporation's men, thirty-one having heen made during the past year, which has included the laying of the drain between the sewer and building.

A new Thresh (patent) Steam Disinfector has been provided and erected at the hospital for the Joint Isolation Hospital

Committee, and will no doubt prove a great boon to the authorities.

The old insanitary cottages in Upper Saint John Street have been replaced with 14 up-to-date houses by the Corporation under the "Housing of the Working Classes Act."

The Storm Water Outfall at Stowe has been cleaned out weekly; periodical attention has been given to the cleansing and flushing of sewers.

The entire re-drainage of 13 houses in Gresley Row, properly trapped, intercepted, and ventilated, has been completed, consequent on which several new W.C.'s are being provided.

A new drain has been re-laid in Wade Street, which previously discharged into storm sewer.

A new drain has been laid to premises in Tamworth Street, in lieu of an old one which became choked up, that had been laid in an opposite direction to the flow of the sewer.

New drainage (properly intercepted, trapped and ventilated) has been constructed to houses in Lombard Street in substitution of old drains partly brick on edge, and pipes (far too large) and badly jointed.

Drains to houses, Winkley's Row, were imperfectly connected to sewer and constantly being choked up; they were re-connected on an extended length of sewer, and intercepted.

Certain drainage work has been extended in connection with 12 houses in Sandford Street; the drains being now connected with the new sewer running across Swan Moggs, and are intercepted, trapped, and ventilated: previously the old drainage

from 10 of these houses discharged into the brook course; consequent on the foregoing work, the old midden privies, more or less of a faulty, filthy, and dilapidated condition, and having no means of cleansing except through houses are being replaced by W.C's.

A re-arrangement of drainage of houses in Queen Street has been made, the new drains being connected with sewer, are intercepted, trapped, and ventilated; the old drainage, which took in 4 W.C.'s, previously discharged into the brook course.

A portion of the storm water culvert in Saint John Street has been removed, having become filled up, has been replaced with 12-inch pipes.

A workshop in Bird Street being without closet accommodation, a notice requiring the provision of a W.C. has been served under the "Factory and Workshops Act."

A drain in Saint John Street has been re-laid to the proper sewer; previously the old drain discharged into the storm water sewer.

A portion of the brook course comprised of 12-inch pipes passing under the Museum Grounds became blocked, tree root growths within being removed; several broken pipes were replaced.

The drains from W.C.'s in Sandford Street on being tested were found to discharge into the brook course; a notice has been served requiring them to be taken out and re-connected to the sewer, and the work is in hand.

An old midden privy at Gallows Wharf has been converted into a model privy.

A large number of W.C.'s, model privies, and about 8 pail closets, have been erected or converted from midden privies ; in many cases requiring drains intercepting, trapping and ventilating, or the whole or in part re-construction of drainage.

EMERSON BROOKE,
City Surveyor.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Gentlemen,

During the past year I have continued the house to house inspection inaugurated during the time of my predecessor. This is a most important and useful work, and should be thoroughly and systematically carried out at reasonable intervals, as it is only by this means that many defects would ever be discovered, the tenants being either ignorant of their existence or afraid to complain thereof. This inspection, as regards the whole of the City, is not yet complete, owing to the difficulty experienced and the delay caused in getting the defects remedied as discovered.

Many of the defects found exist in properties belonging to Charities, the Church, or Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and, being in the hands of Trustees and Agents, much time is necessarily lost in various formalities; and though some who act on behalf of these properties have responded admirably to the calls made upon them, there are others who have utterly ignored the requirements of the Sanitary Authority, and these will have to be specially dealt with if the sanitary work of the City is to go on.

I find great reluctance to provide W.C.'s to cottages on the part of some owners, principally those who have been

accustomed to the W.C. of years ago, with its attendant evils of out-of-date plumbing and unsuitable fitments, and who are difficult to convince that, with the vastly improved sanitary appliances and plumbing, and the increasing education of the public in their use, the W.C. of to-day is very much less liable to get out of order.

The Slaughter-houses, Bakehouses, and Workshops have been periodically inspected, and, with few exceptions, found to be in a fair sanitary condition.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have received special attention, and notices served and improvements effected where possible. I find great indifference, or ignorance, exists as to the requirements of the "Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders." People will commence a business of this kind haphazard, without either notifying the Authorities or even applying to be registered when established, only to find later that their arrangements are totally inadequate to meet the requirements. The 800 cubic feet space per cow is specially resented, and old notions and loose habits of cleanliness exist: such as leaving the cleansing of the sheds until after the milking, and often till mid-day until after the milk-round.

There are still some houses supplied with water by wells, with the old percolating midden-privy in close proximity. This state of things should not be allowed, either as regards the privies or the wells, the public water supply being within reasonable distance.

A large number of old midden-privies have been converted during the year into W.C.'s and model-privies, and a few into pail-closets; these last, however, are not the kind of closet suited to the District, or the mode of cleansing adopted by the Council, and should be discouraged, especially so as with this kind of closet the drain system should be most perfect—the

bedroom utensils and slops having necessarily to be discharged into them. When pail-closets are put to public-houses and similar places they cannot fail to be a nuisance: their capacity being based upon a week's accommodation for a single family, they would require emptying every day or two when used by the public. A large number of defective bell-traps also have been replaced by gully-traps, and old brick sinks provided with proper waste-pipes, and in many cases sanitary sinks have been substituted.

Many of these old privies, bell-traps, and insanitary sinks still remain to be dealt with.

Yours obediently,

JAMES PINCHES,

Sanitary Inspector.

TABLES.

TABLE I.

LICHFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1904 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.						
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.				Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1894	7,865	217	27·6	22	101	131	16·7	24	9	...	122	15·5
1895	,,	222	28·2	31	140	163	20·7	36	21	...	144	18·0
1896	,,	199	25·3	31	156	135	17·2	36	24	...	111	14·1
1897	,,	192	24·4	23	120	141	17·9	25	16	...	125	15·9
1898	,,	198	25·2	31	157	158	20·1	27	19	...	139	17·7
1899	,,	215	27·3	24	112	163	20·7	48	34	...	129	16·4

1902	7,902	205	25·7	22	107·3	123	15·5	30	15	...	108	13·6
1903	,,	199	24·9	24	120·6	154	19·2	44	28	7	133	16·5
Averages for years 1894-1903.	7,872·4	204·6	25·9	27·5	133·4	154·2	19 5	36·1	22 6	1·1	132·9	16·8
1904	7,902	217	27·1	44	202·8	177	22 15	47	26	1	152	19·0

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) } 3,416.

Total population at all ages 7,902
Number of inhabited houses 1,687
Average number of persons per house ... 4·7
} At Census of 1901.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Union Workhouse. Victoria Nursing Home.	—	Milley's Hospital. General Hospital, Birmingham.

The Union Workhouse is within the District.

TABLE II.

Not being supplied with the number of Births in each locality, I am unable to fill in Table II., which is practically included in Table I.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

LICHFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							Total Cases notified in each locality.					No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each locality.				
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.															
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	S. Michael.	S. Mary.	S. Chad.	The Close.	Travelling.	S. Michael.	S. Mary.	S. Chad.	The Close.	Travelling.
Small-pox	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	10	...	3	5	2	...	...	4	4	2	...	...	2	4	2	...	...
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	9	...	...	1	1	5	2	4	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	8	1	4	...	...	3	...	5	1	1	..	1	3	1	...	...	1
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	24	2	15	7	...	...	...	13	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Totals	54	3	22	13	5	9	2	28	19	5	1	1	6	5	2	..	1

The Isolation Hospital is at Curborough, Lichfield.

TABLE IV.

LICHFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1904.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all Ages.)				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	S. Michael	S. Mary	S. Chad	The Close	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever — Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever — Enteric	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever — Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa (*See* notes at foot)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis " "	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	2	...	...
Puerperal Fever " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuber-												

Bronchitis	9	...	...	...	...	5	4	5	1	2	...	6
Pneumonia	12	2	2	...	...	6	2	9	1	2	...	3
Pleurisy	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism / Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	1	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	15	...	...	...	1	9	5	8	3	4	...	4
Accidents	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
All other causes	69	20	3	1	...	11	34	27	16	23	3	27
All causes	152	40	7	2	4	49	50	75	35	39	3	47

NOTE.—Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are included deaths certified as from diarrhœa, alone or in combination with some other cause of ill-defined nature; and also deaths certified as from

Epidemic enteritis;
Zymotic enteritis;
Epidemic diarrhœa. Summer diarrhœa;
Dysentery and dysenteric diarrhœa;
Choleraic diarrhœa, cholera, cholera nostras (in the absence of Asiatic cholera).

Under the heading of "Enteritis" are included those certified as from Gastro-enteritis, Muco-enteritis, and Gastric catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants, under the specific term "Diarrhœa." Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease are included under the latter.

Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" are included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms.

TABLE V.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK done in the Nuisance Inspector's Department during the year 1904, in the Urban District of Lichfield.

	Inspections and Observations made.	Formal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances Abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses and Schools :			
Foul Conditions	20	20	20
Structural Defects	2	2	2
Overcrowding	1	1	1
Unfit for Habitation	1	1	1
Lodging-houses	30	1	1
Dairies and Milkshops / Cowsheds	45	4	4
Bakehouses	40	2	1
Slaughter-houses	40	1	1
Canal Boats	...	...	...
Ashpits and Privies	179	179	100
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	2	2	2
Water Closets	45	45	40
House Drainage :			
Defective Traps	119	119	90
No Disconnection	30	30	28
Other Faults...	105	105	90
Water Supply	...	...	...
Pigsties	50	20	20
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...
Offensive Trades	...	...	...
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...
Other Nuisances	27	27	27
TOTALS.	736	559	428

	Nos.
Seizures of Unwholesome Food	...
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...
,, ,, found Adulterated	...
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	1
,, ,, condemned as unfit for use	...

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	19
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	9
Schools ditto ditto	..
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...
Convictions ditto ditto	...
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things	...
Convictions ditto ditto	...

(Signed) JAMES PINCHES,

January, 1905. *Inspector of Nuisances.*

TABLE VI.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)...	17	2	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	82	2	...
Workplaces	2	1	...
Homeworkers' Premises	8	1	...
Total	109	6	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				

Overcrowding	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	1	1	...	...
Sanitary accommodations — insufficient	2	...	...	..
Sanitary accommodations — unsuitable or defective...	3	3	...	...
Sanitary accommodations — not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)...	1	1	...	...
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107)	1	1	...	...
Total	12	10	...	...

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

	Number of	
	Lists.	Outworkers.
Homework :—		
Lists of Outworkers (S. 107) :—		
Lists received	2	14
Addresses of outworkers — forwarded to other Authorities	1	1
Addresses of outworkers — received from other Authorities	...	...

Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904.

Workshop Bakehouses	11
Other Workshops	48
Total number of Workshops on Register... ...	59